

UNHRC has ordered more reports and held more special sessions on Israel than another country in the world. The Council has also passed more resolutions against Israel than for all 191 other U.N. members combined and Israel is the only country that is a permanent agenda item at Council meetings.

Those who seek to elevate the Goldstone Report recommendations are advancing a campaign to demonize Israel's soldiers, denounce its democratic institutions, and undermine efforts to move the peace process forward. They feed into a disturbing new wave of anti-Israel discrimination including Arab League efforts to invigorate the Arab boycott against Israel and a recent Bahraini parliament vote to make it illegal for the Kingdom's citizens to have contact with Israelis.

Some opponents of this resolution have suggested that its motivation is to bury the incidents and allegations recorded in the report. This assessment is grossly wrong. Israel is already investigating and prosecuting reported incidents in Gaza and the United States has encouraged the government to expand and intensify its efforts. The integrity of the Israeli military and the Israeli judicial system requires that all credible allegations are thoroughly examined.

What is buried by the Goldstone Report is the suffering Palestinians in Gaza experience every day as hostages to an extremist terror campaign fought by Hamas and fueled by Iran. What is largely ignored is the deliberate efforts of Hamas to launch attacks from civilian areas and the extraordinary efforts Israel took to avoid civilian casualties.

Others have suggested that Israel's cooperation with the "fact finding mission" could have avoided its biased outcome. The reality is that the mission was fated by a sweeping mandate, the inclusion of a judge with admitted prejudice against Israel, and reliance on testimony by individuals largely chosen and at times intimidated by Hamas officials.

As a result, the report calls for the International Criminal Court to consider charges against Israeli military leaders and politicians and supports universal jurisdiction for countries to bring charges against Israeli soldiers and diplomats wherever they travel. Yet, Hamas leaders and the terrorist state sponsors who sparked the Gaza conflict with thousands of rockets face no sanction at all.

While President Obama works to achieve a breakthrough in the peace process, continued action on the Goldstone Report only pushes the parties farther apart. As Israel begins to implement unprecedented policies to constrain future settlement growth, the virulent atmosphere generated by the Goldstone Report can only serve to poison hope for progress.

I strongly urge my colleagues to vote for H. Res. 867. I commend the Obama administration for its continued work to oppose any endorsement or further consideration of the report and its recommendations.

HONORING SARAH GRAHAM

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 4, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sarah Graham, a very

special young lady who has earned a spot on the National USA Karate Team. I join with Sarah's family and friends in expressing best wishes on her significant achievement. I commend Sarah on attaining such a high honor and wish her the best of luck as she competes in the World Karate Championships in Dublin, Ireland, this October.

Gaining recognition for this remarkable achievement reflects both Sarah's hard work and dedication. As a member of the stand-alone Missouri team, as well as the team with the largest number of students to be selected from a single school, Sarah should be proud of her accomplishments. She is a member of a celebrated team and has represented the state of Missouri well. With such drive and determination I am certain Sarah will be a strong contribution to the national team.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully request you join with me in commending Sarah Graham for her success with Sensei Mark Long's Shotokan Karate team and for her effort put forth in achieving this prestigious goal.

#### HISTORY OF EASTERN AIRLINES

**HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 4, 2009*

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the history of the former Eastern Airlines and its loyal employees. As a member of the U.S. House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Subcommittee on Aviation, this matter is of particular importance to me. I recently met with one of my constituents; Mr. Robert G. Fuhrman of Fayetteville, Georgia, who is a former Eastern pilot; Bob recounted the history of the company and its employees' fight to maintain its reputation for leadership in the airline industry. Additionally, Bob presented me with a copy of his manuscript as well as a number of correspondences to elected officials detailing his experiences, both good and bad, at Eastern Airlines. I have brought these experiences and documents to the attention of the House Aviation Subcommittee so that the Members of the Subcommittee would be aware of the history of Eastern Airlines as well as fulfill my constituent's First Amendment right as outlined in our U.S. Constitution to petition his government for a redress of grievances.

I would like to recount some of the history of Eastern Airlines which had such a profound impact on my home state of Georgia as a hub at Hartsfield—Jackson, Atlanta International Airport.

Eastern Air Transport first emerged on the heels of the Great Depression, operating primarily as an airmail carrier. As air travel grew during the 1950s and 60s, Eastern proved to be a leader in both aviation technology and industry practices. It was the first airline to turn a profit from commercial transportation and the first to successfully implement a shuttle service.

Along with its reputation for excellence in flight, Eastern became respected for its civic and philanthropic contributions. Eddie Rickenbacker, the company's founder and World War I flying ace, oversaw Eastern's participation in U.S. war efforts. In World War II, Eastern

served the United States Military by establishing military support flights connecting Florida, Pennsylvania, and Texas. This project eventually led to the creation of the airline's own Military Transport Division. The families of Eastern airlines shared both the drive for success and sense of responsibility its early founder established. Between 1985 and 1986, employees and their families sponsored three "mercy flights" to Ethiopia and the Sudan.

Despite the company's early success and innovation, Eastern began to experience financial difficulty. After years of losses, a series of labor disagreements, and the slow accumulation of debt, Eastern filed for bankruptcy in March of 1989. However, the strategic move was not enough to salvage the company, as it was unable to keep up with the expanding market and the demand for cheaper fares. Eastern Airlines finally closed its doors in 1991. While the airline is no longer in operation, the advances its management and employees contributed to the industry are still used by major carriers today. It is of great importance to me that Eastern Airlines and its employees such as my constituent Robert Fuhrman are remembered by the U.S. Congress in a positive light for their contributions to air travel.

#### A TRIBUTE TO THE PHILADELPHIA TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 4, 2009*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the Philadelphia Tribune, the oldest, continuously published African American owned newspaper in the nation. For 125 years the Tribune has chronicled the African American story while also being an important part of that story.

The Tribune was founded in 1884 by Christopher Perry, only 19 years after the end of the U.S. Civil War. Perry, born in Baltimore, Maryland in 1856, moved to Philadelphia at the age of 17, intent on starting a newspaper. He said, "For my people to make progress, they must have a newspaper through which they can speak against injustice."

Perry published the first edition of the Tribune Weekly when he was 28. This one-page, one-man operation newspaper debuted the same year African American inventor Lewis Latimer began working for Thomas Edison, Booker T. Washington founded the Tuskegee Institute, and Harriet Tubman was still alive. After Perry died in 1921, the leadership of the newspaper passed to his son-in-law, E. Washington Rhodes.

From 1922 to 1970, Mr. Rhodes was at the helm of the newspaper as publisher. Appointed by President Calvin Coolidge, Mr. Rhodes served as an assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District, the first African American to do so. Additionally, Mr. Rhodes served as president of the National Bar Association, was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1938, and was president of the National Publishers Association (NNPA), a national trade organization of African American owned newspapers.

Committed to the newspaper's mission, the Tribune has been led over the past decades